Be safe while out in the woods

This week many sportsmen are entering the woods in hopes of bagging their favorite game. Most hunter will find this sport very rewarding and fulfilling if they abide by the proper safety rules and observe hunting ethics.

Last year, in the Commonwealth, there were 17 fatalities and 71 injuries in hunting-related accidents. Most of these accidents could have been avoided if the proper safety rules had been followed. The largest percent of these accidents happened on a clear day at close range (0-50 yards). It was also determined that about eighty percent of these accidents happened to people who were not wearing bright colors. Many of these victims were mistaken for game or were not seen by the shooter.

If all of these sportsmen had been wearing a bright color such as an orange fluorescent vest, they might have avoided an accident. Some other safety rules that should be followed are listed below:

(1) Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
(2) Keep the action open when not in use.
(3) Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
(4) Know your gun and ammunition.
(5) Be sure of your target and beyond.
(6) Know where your companions are.
(7) Alcohol and shooting do not mix.
(8) Never carry a loaded gun in a vehicle.

If the firearm is mishandled, then someone may be placed in danger. These are only a few rules of many. A safe hunter will be responsible to not only know the rules, but to use them in many different situations.

Another timely topic is hunter ethics. Over the past few years a lot of emphasis has been placed on this subject. This has mainly been due to Operation Respect.

Operation Respect stands for Responsible Educated Sportsmen Promoting Ethical Conduct Together. It is a sportsmen's effort to raise the standards of ethical conduct afield. In the past the lack or moral committment has caused the general public to view the activities of sportsmen with increasing distaste.

Operation Respect seeks to turn this trend around and return to the high standards of sportsmanship that make outdoor activities respectable.

Operation Respect can only work if hunters are willing to abide by what it stands for. Without respect for conservation and property, hunters will soon find themselves without anywhere to hunt. Usually the problem centers around a few careless individuals but the whole group is criticized. One of Operation Respect's objectives is to have sportsmen's peers shnow them the proper ethics.

Some of these are listed below:

(1) Ask permission every time you hunt.
(2) Keep safely away from livestock and buildings.
(3) Follow instructions on where to hunt.
(4) Report those who do damage property.
(5) Clean up any litter and spent shells.
(6) Obey all game laws.

You can have a great day without breaking the law. The challenge of the hunt and being out there is really what it's all about.

By using these proper ethics and placing safety first, the Appomattox FFA Chapter hopes every hunter will have an enjoyable and rewarding season.

Times-Virginian

SPORTS

Jayvee stats noted

The Raider jayvee football team finished their season with an 8-2 record, 5-2 in the district.

Offensive leaders were Andre McCoy with 12 touchdowns and five two-point conversions; Duane Patterson with 11 touchdowns, and three two-point conversions; and John Fedison with six touchdowns and two two-point conversions.

Leading receivers were Fedison with 15 catches for 250 yards and six touchdowns; and Gary Scruggs with 10 catches for 150 yards and two touchdowns.

Defensive leaders for the team this year were Andre McCoy, with 84 tackles, and two interceptions from his linebacker spot; Keith Fanney with 53 tackles and one blocked punt from his linebacker spot; Duane Patterson, with 34 tackles and one interception from his cornerback spot; R. W. Jamerson, with 31 tackles from his nose guard position; Larry Trent, with 20 tackles one blocked punt and one interception from his position at tackle; and Toney Martin, with 17 tackles and two blocked punts from his defensive end spot.

Patterson, McCoy and Fanney led in the rushing department with 721, 630, and 107 yards, respectively. The team amassed a total of 2,257 yards during the 1983 season.

MEMBERS OF THE 1983 Raiderette varsity basketball team who were honored at last Tuesday's fall sports banquet included (from left) Sandra Watkins, most valuable, all district and all region; Sally Coleman, Raiderette Award; and Lisa Pannell, most improved. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Game Commission: stay 100 yards from road

The Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries reminds hunters that shooting within 100 yards of any public road is illegal.

This law has been in effect in Virginia for many years and remains unchanged and unaffected by any county ordinances that may not prohibit hunting closer to the roads than 100 yards.

This law may be enforced by any game warden or police officer.

The Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries is agressively promoting the wearing of blaze orange this hunting season. Some 10,000 blaze orange vests are being distributed by Game Commission field personnel to hunters who will wear them. Statistics show that hunters wearing blaze orange are five times less likely to be shot by another hunter. Visual judgement is important in about ¼ of all hunting accidents.

There were a record number of accidents during the 1982-83 hunting season, a large number of which fell in the category where visual judgement was a factor. An examination of 23 years data reveals that 50% hunter judgement accidents involve deer hunters. Nineteen percent of such deer hunting accidents proved fatal.

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Football Contest

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TO THE 1ST OR 2ND PLACE WINNERS IF THEY PICK THE EXACT SCORE OF THE APPOMATTOX VARSITY TEAM.

CONTEST RULES

•All you have to do is check ( ) the name of the team you think will win in the games listed in each and on this page.

•The person picking the most games right will be declared the winner. The next best score will win second prize.

•In case of a tie, there will be TWO tie breakers:
(1) The closest guess to the actual score of the Appomattox Varsity game... (or any other game so designated as a tie breaker.)
Be sure to fill in ACTUAL SCORES for these two games!

•Use this ENTIRE PAGE as your entry blank. No other means of entering will be accepted. Be sure to put your name and address in the space provided at the bottom of the page.

Mail page to FOOTBALL, THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN, P.O. Box 2097, Appomattox, Va.
•All entries must be received by 12 NOON ON FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK.
•Only one entry per person per week.
•Judges decision will be final.

•Employees of the TIMES-VIRGINIAN and their families are not eligible to enter the contest.

Tiebreaker and Special Contest

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MEMBERS OF THE 1983 Appomattox County High School golf team who were honored at last Tuesday night's fall sports banquet included (from left) Freddie Lawson, most improved; Bobby Carter, most valuable; and Darren Tolley, who received a special trophy for shooting a hole in one during one of the matches this season. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

MEMBERS OF THE 1983 Appomattox County High School varsity Raider football team who were honored at Tuesday night's annual fall sports banquet included (from left) Kevin Kendrick, most improved player; Scott Almond, best offensive lineman; Carl Banks, best defensive lineman; and Ron Kelso, most versatile back. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

School transportation workers honored in county

[Continued from Page 1]

to safety. When the attention of the driver is distracted by a behavior problem the safety of the entire bus is threatened," Perrow noted.

"I realize only too well, that the behavior of the children on the bus often reflects the kind of morning or day they have had at home or at school," said Perrow. "We have to take all of these things into consideration and be constantly on the lookout for potential problems."

"Once there is a behavior problem on the bus," Walton said, "we work with the student, the driver of the bus, the parents and the teachers and if necessary we will remove the student or students causing the problem from the bus."

"Motorists need to be aware of the hours that school buses are on the road and drive carefully, always aware that they could drive up behind a bus on almost any road in the county," said Perrow.

"Just the other day, one of our women drivers was stopped to load or unload on highway 460 and two tractor trailers came up behind her. One went into the median strip and one pulled alongside the bus before stopping. There was no accident but a very frightened bus driver who handled herself very well," said Perrow.

DID YOU
REALIZE?
Strong Community Schools Depend On Strong Local Economy
Did You Realize that there are two funds that go directly to school support. On a state-wide average these funds run about equal. One fund is based on attendance of pupils. The other fund is the 1% sales tax returned to the county. Last year over $600,000 came into our system as a results of attendance while only 345,000 came from the sales tax. In effect we are paying for teacher salaries in other localities.
Did You Realize that in 1980 there was more than $61,000,000 available to be spent by residents of Appomattox County. That year only $26,279,372 were actually spent. That's 42% compared to a nation average of 80% spent in a local economy. In three years time we increased county sales to $27,988,027. Taking into account a modest 8% inflation rate, we showed decreased sales figured in constant dollars.
Did You Realize - that over the last five years more than 20 local businesses have closed, been sold, or have reduced their work force. This is a trend we must reverse.
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